VIETNAM

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O Lau (South Viet Nam) River guerillas

South Viet Nam

August 19 1968

No 178

* A U.S. Armoured Unit Completely Destroyed in Five Minutes South-Southeast of Da Nang; a Post Near Chu Lai Defended by Two U.S. and One Puppet Platoon Wiped Out in 20 Minutes.

- * 850 Enemy Troops (Mostly G.I.s) Killed or Wounded North of Quang Tri Province.
- * New Enemy Setback in A So Region: 300 Men Put out of Action, 11 Aircraft Downed.
- * 23 Enemy Vessels (Including Two 8.000 and 12.000-Ton Cargo Boats) Damaged, Burnt or Sunk in Many Engagements in Nam Bo.

North Viet Nam

UP TO AUGUST 15. 1968

3.098 U.S. aircraft were downed

— the country was in full political effervescence; all social strate were participat-ing in multiple actions, put-ting forward national and democratic demands, and democratic demands, and carrying on the struggle in the most varied forms;

-that multiform movement retar functions movement was however under a single leadership, all social strata and popular organisations having recognized the leadership of the Communist ership of the Communist Party, the only party to have

In the Light of August 1945

movement, like the D.R.V.N. government, which stem therefrom, strikes by its per manence and continuity. For more than a quarter of a century, three imperailist powers, France, Japan then powers, France, Japan then wainly sought to smother it and to hamper its march forward. Now more than ever, as the Vietnamese people, pursuing their struggle, reaping ever more important victories, an accurate knowledge of the origins of the indispensable. manence and continuity.

THE Vietnamese people's victorious resistance to the huge American war machine is and will remain for many an inexplicable phenomenon, or at least one which calls for explanation.

which calls for explanation. One of the essential reason for this lies in the fact that many foreign observers have but an inadequate grasp of the origins of the Vietnamese revolution. In an era characterized by the instability of organisations and regimes, the Vietnamese revolutionary

A LTHOUGH for more than a century the Vietnamese people's struggle for national independence had for national independence had never ceased, one may say that the present revolution, after the stormy assaults of workers and peasants in 1930 and the political awakening of masses jin 1936, took shape in the 1940's. When World War Two started, the situation in Viet Nam was characterized by two facts of capital importance: set forth a consistent political program and adequate forms of action and organisation.

French colonialist repression made harsher under pretext of the war and Japansion made harsher under the commander harsher under the commander of the c

ience.

While tiny nationalist groups, such as the Dai Viet, spread the illusion that the Japanese would help the Vietnamese people reconquer their independence the Viet Minh front was for resolute and unequivocal opposition to both French colonialism and lanapase fascism. and Japanese fascism.

(Continued page 4)

We Call On World Public Opinion To Stay U.S. Aggressors' Bloody Hands

- NHAN DAN Editorial, August 13, 1968 -

PROGRESSIVE mankind is bringing in PROGRESSIVE markind is bringing in at the lab visit pringing in at the lab visit principle of conscience a critical principle of conscience a critical or lab visit principle or lab vi

CCORDING to the Viet
A Nam Commission for Investigation of U.S. Imperialists and Ifenchmen's War
extra the comment of the Control
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pundents of towns and cities
massare of the civilian population with bombs and bullets
and weapon bounded by interand weapon bounded by intertone of the civilian population of the 'burn all, detroy all, kill all' policy,
heading of the population into
tion of many cultural mounments, historical relies, churches, papodas, hapitals and ments, historical relics, church-es, pagodas, hospitals and schools; barbarous killing of patriots; brazen robbery of rice, paddy and other property of the town and country

As a result of the crimes of the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen, 80% of the Hue city structures have been de-stroyed, the Da Lat town and the capitals of My Tho and

proble.

Ben Tre province heavily devastated; the towns of Plethy, Kontino, Gan Tho... From 50%, to 60%, and the towns of 50% of 50% of the towns of 50% of 50 and handrade of thousands of others rendered homeless. Vet, according to the New York Conference of the New York Conference on th

Having arrogantly delineat-"free-strike areas," the 5. aggressors and their schmen have been committing arge number of their airhenchmen have been committing a large number of livir air-craft; including II-52 strategic bombers, to wanton raids in all parts of South Viet Nam, and perpetrating innumerable crimes. According to AP on July 11, 1088, the quantity, of bombs dropped by American planes on the areas sprplanes on the areas sur-rounding Saigon in 40 days

equalted the tonnage droppe on South Viet Nam in the three years of 1962, 1963 and 1964 put together. UPI disclosed on June 26, 1968 that the weight of bombs used to by the U.S. in Viet Nam since 1968 had reached 2,200,000 ton, greater than the total weight of the U.S. throughout World Weil U.S. throughout

World War II.

In the jirst half of this year, the U.S. and its henchmen sprayed gas and toxic chemicals on wearly 20 compared by the British paper Guardian Moreover, as reported by the British paper Guardian to spend 70.8 million dollars on chemicals for the period between July 131, 1508 and between July 131, 1508 and more than 181, 1657. They between July 1st, 1958 and July 1st, 1958 and July 1st, 1958, that is 50%, more than in 1950, They burnt thousands of square kilometres of the U Minh jungle, committed monstrous massacres in Dien Ban (Quang Nam province), son My (Quang Nam province), and clienhers dropped tomat and opened fire wantonly on province and in Phat Tai and Phat My (Binh Dinh province), and the province and the provin

IN North Vict Nam, the crimes of the U.S. aggressors have been also of the provincial capitals and 80% of the provincial capitals and 80% of the provincial capitals and an area to hombardments. In 40% of these towns and cities not a single house has capital capitals and provided the second as the control of the second as the control of the second as the control of the second se

(Continued page 4)

PARIS TALKS' 17th SESSION

official conversations between the represen-tative of the D.R.V.N. Government and that of the U.S. Government was held in Paris on August 14.

Taking the floor first, Min-State Xuan Thuy pointed out that the Paris exactly three months now, military venicies and nearly 500 storages of bombs and munitions. He also recalled that public opinion in the world severely condemned the stubborn attitude of the U.S. Government and de-manded that the U.S. stop without making any progress, due to the fact that the U.S. ruling circles, while paying lip service to peace, actually continued to in-tensify their aggressive war. its war of aggression against

During the past 3 months, the U.S. Government has been resorting to all dilatory manoeuvres to balk the main issue which is the complete issue which is the complete cessation of the bombing of the D.R.V.N. and sticking to its unreasonable demand for "reciprocity." Mean-while, in an attempt to allay criticisms it has spread deceitful reports to induce people to think that the talks were making headway.

The D.R.V.N. envoy made plain that though the S. ruling circles claimed that they had shown "re-straint" and had "de-escalatstraint" and had "de-escalat-ed" the fighting, they actually stepped up to un-precedented fierceness their aggressive war in Viet Nam and piled up ever more crimes against the Viet-

This has only contributed to stiffen the determination and dauntless fighting caand dauntiess lighting ca-pacity of the Vietnamese people, Mr. Xuan Thuy said. He recalled that nearly 3,100 U.S. aircraft had been shot down in North Viet Nam so

far and highlighted the great achievements recorded by the South Viet Nam armed forces and people since the general offensives and simultaneous offensives and simultaneous uprisings early this year, which wiped out 380,000 enemy troops including 133,000 men from the U.S. and satellite countries, destroyed 4,400 aircraft, 8,700 military vehicles and nearly

Dismissing the perfidious claim of the U.S. Government that it was seeking "a just and honourable solution" to the Viet Nam problem, the D.R.V.N. chief negotiator D.R.V.N. chief negotiator said: "The dark design of the U.S. is to subdue the South Vietnamese people who have been winning victory after victory in their fight, and force them to accept U.S. neo-colonialism. The U.S. neo-colonialism. The U.S. has asserted that it respects the South Vietnamese ople's right to 'self-deter-nation, 'but it has created mination, 'but it has created the Saigon puppet adminis-tration, and colluded with it, as proved by the Honolulu as proved by the Honolulu joint communique of July 21, 1968. The so-called 'just and honourable solution' put forth by President Johnson, Vice-President Humphrey and Nixon, presidential candidate of the Republican Party, is but a move to force the vic-

torious South Vietnamese peo

ple to bow to a rotten and brutal regime, instrument of the U.S. neo-colonialist

Exposing the hypocrisy of the U.S. ruling circles' pro-mise to the American people to do their utmost for a "de-Americanization" of the war in Viet Nam, the D.R.V.N. in Viet Nam, the D.R.V.N. representative remarked that while U.S. propaganda was clamouring about a "de-Amer-icanization" of the war, an-other American brigade was sent to South Viet Nam, toge-ther with a lot of American weapons and dollars with a view to preventing the Saigon puppet administration's col-

Reiterating the resolve of the Vietnamese people to fight against U.S. aggression, Mr. Xuan Thuy said:

"The Vietnamese people in both zones, North and South, have so far done no whatsoever to the harm whatsoever to the security or honour of the United States. The Vietnamunited States. The Vietnam-ese people have been resist-ing the U.S. aggressors for the sole purpose of vindicat-ing their fundamental nation-al rights and their right to ing their fundamental national rights and their right to live freely, just as the American people, nearly two hung dred years ago, fought for the same noble goals.

"The best, soundest and "The best, soundest and most reasonable course of action which can save the honour of the United States, preserve the interests of both sides and world peace, is U.S. ending of its aggression against Viet Nam, and a peaceful settlement of the Viet Nam. problem on the basis of the 4 points of the Government of the D.R.V.N. and the Political Programme of the South Viet Nam National

Front for Liberation. First and foremost, it must unconditionally stop its bombings and all other acts of war right to resist U.S. aggression other questions of interest to both parties can be put to discussion. There is no other alternative. If the Liberative of the problems of Laos and Cambodia. He pointed out that the D.R.V.N. had always respected the independence.

intensify its war of aggression and persists in its design to impose neo-colonialism on South Viet Nam, it will only bring upon itself heavier defeats and ultimate total failure." U.S. representative Averell

U.S. representative Averell Harriman repeated the slanderous charge that "North Viet Nam commits aggression against South Viet Nam" and "violates international agreements." He cynically declared that the U.S. must continue the bombing to defend its "allies in South Viet Nam." He also said that U.S. B32 stratefacturess only drongs. He also said that U.S. B.52 stratofortresses only dropped bombs on uninhabited swampy and jungled areas in the vicinity of Saigon. He pleaded for the continued introduction of additional American and satellite troops into South Viet Nam an admitted that such a step would be pursued to maintain what he called the "equilibrium" there. To cover up the aggressive nature of the U.S., once again slandered the for Liberation and charged the D.R.V.N. with "aggression, interference, and threat against Laos, Cambodia and Thailand."

Refuting the U.S. chief negotiator's allegations, Mr. Xuan Thuy once more made, it clear that the U.S. was

respected the independence, sovereignty, neutrality and territorial integrity of Cambodia within her present borders. But, till now, the U.S. has refused to make contrary, the U.S. and its henchmen have not ceased violating the border and territory of Cambodia and have massacred many Cambo-dian civilians. In Laos, it is dian civilians. In Laos, it is the U.S. government that is waging a special war and flouting the fundamental na-tional rights of the Lao peo-ple, Mr. Xuan Thuy said.

In conclusion, Minister of State Xuan Thuy declared: "The Government of the U.S. stop unconditionally its bombing and all other acts enjoys the support of the American people and other peoples in the world and of many peace loving govern-ments. That is why the D.R.V.N. side will hold to this demand until the U.S. this demand until the U.S. meets it. If the U.S. refuses to stop unconditionally its bombing and all other acts of war throughout the D.R.V.N., there can be no prospects for a settlement of the Viet Nam problem. The U.S. must bear full responsibility for its obdur-

Hanoi Press Opinion

DRAMATIC DEVELOPMENT IN THAILAND'S ANTI-U.S. MOVEMENT

January 1st, 1965, the Thailand Patriotic or January 1st, 1995, the Inauand Patriotic
Front came into being, marking a new
development of the Thai people's struggle
against the U.S. imperialists and their heachmen.
The Front set forth a program of action for the
struggle for an independent, neutral, peaceful and struggle for an independent, neutral, peacerul and democratic Thailand. Since the gunfire of uprising burst out three years ago, on August 7, 1955, in Nong He village, Naka district, Nakorn Phanom province, Northeast Thailand, the armed struggle of the Thai people against the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen has not ceased developing

The Thai patriotic forces are now operating in 30 of the 71 provinces of Thailand. Alongside many armed attacks on the enemy, the movement many armed attacks on the enemy, the movement of workers, peasants and other strata of the people for better living conditions and democratic rights has also been gaining moment of the strategy of the strat

Frightened by the development of the patriotic movement in Thailand, the U.S. imperialists and the reactionary authorities in Thailand have shamelessly cooked up the step of meters of the shamelessly cooked up the step of the step of the shamelessly cooked up the step of the shameless residents in Thailand and state that such stupid acts can neither hide the failures of the U.S. and its henchmen in Thailand and prainty the crimes of the reactionary authorities in letting the U.S. turn Thailand into a new-type colony and military base and in becoming a party to the U.S. war of aggression in Viet Nam.

NHAN DAN, August 8, 1968

U.S. STRAWMEN MEET IN CONFABS

A series of meetings of U.S.-engineered organisa-tions were recently held.

The Canbrra meeting of the Asian and Pacific Council (A.S.P.A.C.) was nothing short of a new attempt of the U.S. to get from its member countries better help for its policy of aggression in Indo-China and Asia.

As for the Asian Parliamentary Union (A.P.U.) As for the Asian Parliamentary Office (A.P.U.) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (A.S.E.A.N.), their true colours as well as the real intentions of their sponsors could not be hidden in spite of all the masquerades put up by the U.S. such as "economic co-operation," "cultural development," etc...

The creation of these organisations is part of the new policy of the U.S. regarding Asia, known as the "Asian doctrine" expounded by Johnson in his July 12, 1966 speech. This doctrine is essentially aimed at translating into reality, in a new form, the ideology of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation which has

The immediate objective of Johnson's Asian The immediate objective of Johnson's Asian doctrine is to drag more Asian countries into the U.S. aggressive war against Vict Nam and canopiet of the Asian Countries and Countries in Asian's together in a solidarity organisation "dominated by U.S. necolonialism and directed against the socialism countries and the national liberation movement in

Assa.

However, like all other instruments of the U.S., A.S.P.A.C., A.S.E.A.N. and the like cannot weather the revolutionary high tide that is surging in Asia and will, sooner or later, meet with the same inglorious fate as the S.E.A.T.O. military bloc.

NHAN DAN. August 10, 1068

THE AMERICAN SIDE SHOWS ITSELF EVER MORE OBSTINATE

EVER MORE OBSTINATE

A The ryth session of the official talks held in
to his ten "constructive proposal," but
simed at misepresenting the real situation in
Viet Nam, defending American aggression, and
especially eluding the unconditional constant to
D.R.V.N. while asking that the Vietnames people
should show "reciprocity," i.e. that they should
put a premium on aggression.

put a premium on aggression.

The American representative put forward brazen allegations contrary to facts and to the correct opinion held by the peoples of the world, the American people included, about the Viet Nam problem.

The source of the war in Viet Nam is American The source of the war in viet vani is American aggression, yet the American representative shamelessly asserted that it lies in "aggression by North Viet Nam and that the American imperialists have been doing nothing but "defending freedom."

The American imperialists are the international properties of the more segments of the more segments.

The American imperialists are the international gendarme, the aggressor, and the most egyglous warmonger, yet the American representative vant to live in peace with other peoples "and have exported violence." Having shadered our people, with "aggression against Laos and clive people, with "aggression against Laos and clive accused us of "aggression against Thailand." Is Mr. Harriman ignorant of the fact that the U.S.A. Thai territory as well as many important military bases, and that American aircraft taking off from airfields in Thailand have been bombing North Another particularly brasen allegation by the Another particularly brasen allegation by the

Another particularly brazen allegation by the American representative is his slanderous assertion concerning the struggle being waged by the people and armed forces of South Viet Nam against the American aggressors and their lackeys, which he described as "acts of terrorism." Yet everyone knows that it is the American imperialists who are massacring our people in an extremely

NHAN DAN, August 17, 1968

VIET NAM COURIER

THE NORTH—GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH

Editor's Note. - The D.R.V.N. has tackled socialist construction and in the first place, socialist industrialization from a backward agrarian economy, devastated to boot by 25 years of war. For over three years now it has had furthermore to cope with a most ferocious air and naval war of destruction ever known in the history of markind. The following story told by a young country girl who has become a skilled worker and T.U. cadre, will give our readers, on the humane plane, an idea of the process of socialist industrialization in our country. which starts from or nearly from scratch and is carried on successfully despit

T was born after the 1945 August revolution. I was lucky enough not to have to experience these past miser ies now gone for good which weighed heavily on my elders.

I have grown up in a small village in the vicinity of Hanoi. From year to year, I have seen chimneys of factories nave seen chimneys of factories mushrooming in the city one after the other. I have heard the more and more lively din of workshops. The joy owners who lived a collective life, the spectacle full of vigor-ous beauty of young girls manning machines, altracted

A Young

me irresistibly. And I dreamt

of becoming a worker.

Then one day I was taken

in as an apprentice by the Dong Da engineering works in Ha-

noi. I began in fitter's section.

and spent month after month

filing and cutting. I found my work irksome and scamped it. My elders told me, "Don't slight these minor jobs. If you want to become a skilled

worker, you must first know

how to do these small things well." I listened to their advice and buckled down to my

tash Then I could make

substantial progress.

The first trials gave place

to others I took more com-

plicated jobs and despite my

efforts, could not master technique. The cadres of T.U.

technique. The cadres of T.U. and Labour Youth organiza-tions in the workshop said to me, "You can do nothing good vithout a high class consciousness and adequate knowledge backed by practice."

That was true, I subsequently paid more attention to political cultural and social activities in my

workshop. Besides, I attended an evening course and started studying as much as I could. I learnt from books, in life, in classroom and in my workshop.

Some time later, I finished my apprenticeship and got a job in the planing section. I had to handle with others a had to handle with others a planning machine which had nothing attractive. It was bulky and ugly and by it I truly looked like a dwarf. Some workers called it the "Bull" and it frightened me all the more. But the old workers told me that it made

Moman Worker's Dream

frames of machine and that I had to like it for that.

brebaration While working

preparation, While working I learnt from others. I was soon used to it; luckily it was not capricious. Little by little, I could, when it ran smoothly,

look after other things, for instance, remove the asperities

of articles Sent for planing. This, I thought, would shorten the work of the machine.

But a lot of things cropped

up. To meet the urgent needs
of other production units,
our workshop had to fill extra

orders not listed in our plan or to shorten the date sof de

livery of our goods. Longer

hours were necessary. Nobody objected to it for we all realized that to step up production is to hasten our victory over the

American aggressors. This however would upset some of our personal plan which ws

must sometimes, not without difficulties, readjust accor-

I tried to come to my

As I had not many personal matters to see to, I made up my mind to work overtime so as to relieve the strain on as to retieve the strain on others. I also thought that this way would enable me to harden myself. It happened many times that, after my day routine, I worked late into the night. For instance, one Saturday atternoon when I was about to leave my workshop, I learnt that our team had to finish within the night a bed-plate for a machine whose building would be completed the next By the fitting section

Without any more ado, I asked

I was never pleased with the results obtained though they

resuits obtained though they were encouraging. I always thought we could still do better. The planing of a machine part required 196 work hours, a target set by the workshop management. After carefully thinking out what could be done

to improve the operation, I boldly proposed to cut down the time to 160 hours. After discus-

sions, our team accepted it. In fact, we completed our work in 120 hours, which enabled us

to fulfil our 1967 plan one month ahead of schedule.

I have done my best to put into practice the slogan "A hammer in one hand and a rifle in another." Like other

youths in our workshop, I am

a member of a self-defence unit and have never missed a drill nor a patrol. How overjoyed I would be should I down a

U.S. piratic plane! At my fighting post in the night, I would think of the townsfolk,

chiefly of mothers and chil-dren, who sleep soundly. I kept my weather eye wide open, being conscious of my responbeing conscious of my respon-sibilities and proud of keeping

watch for them to sleep in peace. My everyday behaviour and achievements qualified me as member of the executive committee of the T.U. organi-

zation of the workshop. I was greatly honoured by this mark

of contidence my comrades had

shown me but I was most anxious lest I was not up to my task. I thought I could any-

how try to make no mistake in my work or my behav-iour which should be exemplary

for a T.U. cadre. As for the task of arousing the class awareness of T.U. members

awareness of 1.0. memoers and looking after their inte-rests in order to muster all their energies for the service of production and the fighting, I was quite young and inexpe-rienced. However, I was not alone to do the job and was

Tizue Tiales of People's Waz

MOTHER NHAT'S 300 ANTI-U.S. "DONGS"

CR more than 3 years, for each U.S. plane brought down over the North, Mother Nhat (Nguyen Hue village, Khoai Chau district, Hai Hung province) has put 10 nts into her "defeat-the-Yanks savings box." Regularly, she takes the money out and deposits it in the

On June 25, 1968, upon learning of the shooting down of the 3,000th U.S. plane over North Viet Nam, with immense joy, she slipped a new 10-cent note into the savings box. As all North Viet Nam was welcoming the happy event, with this 3,000th 10-cent note, Mother Nhat had lad by

Made a widow when her two sons were still little boys, she and a window when her two sons were still little boys, shies a managed to raise her two sons by hereal. In geans old. She managed to raise her two sons by hereal. In gean the still be sometiment of the hereal. In the memory of her fallen son spurred her to the enomy and the memory of her fallen son spurred her to take an active part in the Resistance. She sheltered Resistance cadres engaged in underground activities in her locality.

In recent years, she had many times sont in applications for her younger son to join the army to fight the U.S. aggressors. The village Party Committee and Administration commended her for her admirable decision but furned down her request. Mother Nhat was well aware that their refusal had here prompted by the general policy which shows the concern of the Party and State for families with only sons and families. of the Party and State for families with only sons and families of war martyrs. She thought hard to find a way for her family to do its share in the current anti-U.S. fight. Finally she opted for the course described above which was taken in response to the call of the Government.

A COURAGEOUS BOY

The day U.S. B. 32* raided village X., in the Vinn Lindarea, the Nguyen Van Kinh family was asked by leich authorities to move temporarily to safety in another place. All along the way, Nguyen Van Quang, a 13-year old school boy of the 6th form, insisted on returning to his village to join the arraymen and militia in lightling the Yanks.

Poverty-stricken, Nguyen Van Kinh could only marry first and only son was born after the re-establishment of peace (July³054). The old couple was deeply attached to their son from whom they would not willingly part for the rest of their life. But faced with his unshakable resolve, they gave way. "All right. Stay behind and fight well, sonny!" they

said.

Wasting no time, Quang handed over their belongman wasting and the said as a said as the logs could
carry his mother and ran back as fast as his logs could
carry his mother and the said as a said as a said as a

man said as a said as a said as a said as a said as

the militamen. He started cleaning the shells and feeding
the gun. In the milit of the fierce, the unit ran short
dump but the trip was very dangerous. As the bombing
subsided a little bit, Quang moved out, now running
now scrambling, and moments later returned with a 30-bg.

The next day, the boy was given a rifle. He felt very The next day, the boy was given a rifle. He felt very delighted as he had been for long dreaming of a gun to delighted as he had been for long dreaming of a gun to his willage. He at once joined in the fighting with the wapon. At times, buried under heaps of earth, he struggled out and went on with the fighting. As things were getting the militiamen, "Lat me live or die with you. The enemy has destroyed my school. He has reduced my house to rubble. I must make them pay for it."

For 7 (days running, fighting with Battery 4 of the village militia, at times 20 engagements a day from morning till night without having even time for a bite. Quang remained unruffled. The whole unit recognised that he well deserved to be a "good nephew of Uncle Ho."



helped efficiently by others. helped efficiently by others. Little by little I got accustomed to it and was quite happy to see that my initial experience in political work helped me into maturity.

While seeing to all these tasks, I never gave up study. I finished the eighth class of I finished the eighth class of general education (correspond-ing to the 5th form of a French secondary school) and am now attending a spare-time class of an intermediate vocational

school for workers. It is a thing never dreamt of by most of my elders. I have spoken of my dreams. Many have come true; others, yes many others, are on the way to become reality. One dream I have been nurturing, the finest one, which I hope, will soon mate-rialize: my admission to the glorious Viet Nam Workers'

KIM DUNG

U.S. Air Force's Crimes Against North Viet Nam Churches

N July 21, in three raids, American aircraft dropped 83 demolition and explosive bombs and 6 steel pellet bombs and indiscriminately fired rockets and 20mm bullets on the bishopric area Xa Doai diocese, Nghe An province, thus erasing daliberately from the map this catholic centre of the three provinces of Nghe An, Ha Tinh and Quang Binh. Casualties amounted to 74 including Bishop Tran Huu Duc and his assistant Nguyen

The bombing and strafing of the Xa Doai bishopric area was an act committed early as May 1966, it has become a target of the U.S. air force. Between March 31 and July 23, 1968 only, it weathered 49 air raids. Since the beginning of the U.S. air war against the D.R.V.N. 457 churches and 3 seminaries have been attacked. In almost all the provinces in North

O^N August 13, the Commission for Investigation of U.S. Imperialists' War Crimes in Viet Viet Nam. churches have been raided by U.S. planes: from the well-known big Catholic centre of Phat Diem, and the high cathedral of Nam Dinh Nam issued a statement on U.S. attack against the visible far from the city, to such parish churches as in Ha Thach, Lam Thao district, statement reads : statement reads:
"The recent attacks against
the Xa Doai cathedral area
fully testify to the U.S.
imperialists' intensified and Phu Tho province, none has been spared. Significantly enough, all the 240 churches

in Quang Binh province have ried escalation carried out been attacked by U.S. planes. after March 31, 1968 against the material and spiritual It is clear that the U.S. life of the people living from Thanh Hea southward. North Viet Nam cannot imputed to the mistake of "The raid on this area together with others against some American airmen and it is also clear that the U.S. churches, temples and pago-das in North Viet Nam in their war of destruction and particularly since March 31, bombing of North Viet Nam does not aim solely at destroying "concrete and steel," but at subduing the 1068 clearly show U.S. impe rialists' systematic and deli-berate intention to destroy entire Vietnamese people. The number of U.S. planes downed religious establishments and

In the Light of August 1945

and other places, railway

workers, textile workers, printing workers, dockers,

staged continua

strikes. In the rural areas, by

early 1944, one could see thousands of peasants opposing

the requisition of rice b

French and the Japanese. In

drove away Japanese pilferers.

By the end of 1944, the country was in a pre-insurrectional stage. On December

rectional stage. On December 22, 1944, from guerilla units as nucleus, an "Armed Propaganda Brigade" was set up, which was later to grow into the Viet Nam December.

to the Viet Nam People's

Army. Liberated areas can

into being in the mountain

THE Party's leadership had predicted that divergen-

ces between the French

fascists were to become ever sharper with the latter's

defeats, and the revolutionary

to launch quick and decisive actions. It had also foreseen that the "Allies"—the Americans, British, French,

and Chiang Kai-shek-follow-

ing the Japanese defeat, would try to restore the

would try to restore the colonial regime. On March 9, 1945, the Japanese overthrew the French colonial regime

and imposed their own rule through the agency of a puppet administration.

The point was for the

revolutionary movement to overthrow the pro-Japanese government before the arrival of the "Allied" treaser

of the "Allied" troops: it was at the same time a trial

forces would be in a posit

market-places, women t armed with bamboo

one could

miners

over North Viet Nam (3.097

up to August 12, 1968) is the most relevant answer of

the Vietnamese people, with-out distinction of creed, to

the air escalation of the

American aggressors.

It was not mere paperwork, not an abstract programme. In the field, the Party's grass-roots organisations ral-lied the popular masses and led them into bitter battles. Workers went on strike for higher wages and better working conditions; school and college students and intellectuals stood in defence intellectuals stood in defence of a healthy and independ-ent national culture; peas-ants, hoe and pick in hand, fought off Japanese troops coming to force them to plant hemp in place of rice To legal action were added clandestine activities, each supporting the other. Economic, political, social struggle was associated with careful preparations for armed strug-Workers' actions in th towns and peasants' actions in the countryside advanced

Active agitation was con ducted among ethnic minorities living in mountainous areas. For the first time in Vietnamese history, a party was leading national minorities into national political action on the basis of action, on the basis of absolute equality. With the support of the ethnic minorities, guerillas bases were quickly set up in mountainous regions.

A broad national union programme and growing suc-cesses in mass actions won over large numbers of intel-lectuals, part of the bour-geoisie and some personalities of repute. Ferocious exploitation and repression by French colonialists French Japanese occupants ran into ever fiercer resistance from the people, led by communis militants. The victories won by the Soviet Union over Hitlerite fascism, after 1943, gave a vigorous impulse to the movement. In Saigon, Hanoi, Dap Jau, Viet Tri, Nam Dinh

of strength and a race, a mobilisation of all the people's resources and a jud choice of means and time for The means for action were constituted by the popular masses' political and armed

millions of people were astir, in both the towns and the countryside, the plain and the mountain areas. The time was the short interval tween the Japanese capitula-tion and the entry of Allied troops. The directives issued by the Viet Minh for the carried out. For fifteen days during the two last weeks of August 1945, Japanese troops and puppet adminis-trative authorities in all the cities—Saigon, Hue, Hanoi, Nam Dinh, Vinh, etc.—were besieged by millions of peo-ple, who rose up and estab-lished revolutionary power. The demonstrators were supported by armed units. In Hanoi on August 19, in

massacre civilians, catholics and non-catholics, which is a

flagrant challenge to the peo-ple's freedom of belief and attempt to stamp out their

spirit of struggle for inde-

Hue on the 23rd, in Saigon on the 25th, hundreds of on the 25th, hundreds of thousands of people took to the streets, sweeping away the last vestiges of the pro-Japanese administration; the and handed over to the revolutionary authorities the en blems of monarchy. For the Vietnamese people, the Augus 1945 Revolution was to be marked for ever by the imperishable memory of mammoth popular demonstra-tions in which-armed or

in an irresistible upsurge

swept away within a matter of days a hated colonial and

monarchical regime.

HE Government of the Democratic Republic o idence was proclaimed on eptember 2, 1945, was born o this widespread movement of the masses from the North to the South of the country, whose enthusiastic support was for it the best prop. For difficulties were not lacking. The "Allied" troops were already there:

WE CALL ON WORLD OPINION TO STAY U.S. AGGRESSORS' BLOODY HANDS

by trying to excuse themselves with the pretext of their "pres-ident's honour," the U.S. flag and the U.S. Constitution.

The whole progressive man-

The whole progressive man-kind is indignantly condemn-ing the U.S. aggressors and thir henchmen. The anger of genuine Americans has found vivid expression in this bitter

accusation by paediatrist Ben-jamin Spock: "We have de-stroyed hamlets and cities, poisoned crops, burned houses,

potsoned crops, ourned houses, filled the refugee camps to overflowing, and killed men, women and children by hundreds of thousands with shells, bombs and napalm."

This strong feeling has also inspired this letter from the Lawyers' Committee on Amer-ican Policy Towards Viet Nam

to J.W. Fulbright, chairman

of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee: "It is

painful for citizens to assert that the war Americans are fighting in Viet Nam is not

just, in terms of either law or

As their end is drawing nearer and nearer, the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen are making frantic

use of bombs and bullets as a

life - saving amulet. They fancy that their cruelty can make us waver in our determi-

nation to make them pay for

their crime of aggression. They are grossly mistaken! For

have taken up arms. No sacri

tice, no hardship and difficulty

can dampen our resolve to fight and to win. Once inde-

pendence and freedom have

been regained we shall rebuild

our country and endow it with

creater and more beautiful

hatred is boundless. With this

strength, our fighters and compatriots will strike harder

blows at the aggressors and their henchmen. The death

sentence against them has been

We call on the American

people and the peoples in all

continents to launch a still

more vigorous protest move

ment to stay the bloody hands

of the U.S. aggressors and to

demand that they stop imme

bassed.

structures! The strength

independence and freedom we

American bombs. Some of these villages have been raided 2,000 or even 3,000 times. The U.S. struck at hospitals, schools, pagodas, churches, industrial centres, water conservancy projects and even rice paddies. Under the signboard of "limited bombing," since April the U.S. has concentrated its war means and fire por on ferocious raids from Thanh Hoa province to the demili-tarized zone. The intensity of the raids as well as the quantity of bombs and shells use has been increasing considerably every month. U.S. D tence Secretary Clark Cliffor testified at a hearing in the U.S. House of Representatives that there were 3,000 air sorties in February, 5,000 in March 7,000 in April and 10,000 in May. In the last few months the ferocity of the raids has even escalated higher.

The wholesale destruction of the Roman Catholic area in Xa Doai (Nghi Loc district, Nghe An province) on July 21 which resulted in 74 Catholics dead or wounded, including a bishop, his coadjutor and many priests and nuns, has thrown a lurid light on the cruelty and perfidy of the U.S. aggressors in the so-called "limited bombing."

THE gravity of the U.S. crimes in both zones of Viet Nam lies in the fact that destruction has beco me a State policy of the ag gressors in their death - ber struggle, Creighton Abrams the new commander of the U.S. expeditionary corps in South Viet Nam declared: "We are going to use B.52s to drop so many bombs on them that all we need is to send an unarmed bateal with note books to keep patrol with note ooons to need score" (AP, June 29). U.S. President Johnson encourage his subordinates to commi more crimes by threatening that "the U.S. would have to act promptly with additional July 31).

Thus, the U.S. aggressors Thus, the U.S. aggressors have challenged our people, the American people and the peoples throughout the world! In rushing along the criminal path trodden by the Hitlerite hordes, they are defying man hind's civilisation. They are smearing the United States

Famine, due to natural calam-

million people. In the govern-ment's coffers there remained

ally or friend.

In Viet Nam, long sin but a paltry sum: 1,250,720 piastres. Geographically, the D.R.V.N. was isolated, for no aid could come from any Is was difficult to imagine how a government could in such conditions check famine and restore sound finances, while foiling the designs of its enemies—powerful, perfidious enemies having at their disposal important armed forces. Not only did the D.R.V.N. survive, but she

grew up and defeated her 200 000 men of Chiang Kaishek in the North, and the Anglo-French in the South. most dangerous enemies one after another. Not only did the revolutionary movement escape being nipped in the bud, but it has not ceased ities and rice-hoarding by the French and the Japanese, had caused the death of two strengthening in all fields ever

> the popular masses, under the guidance of an experienced Marxist - Leninist Party, have grown conscious of their strength and marched resolutely forward to conquer national independence and social justice. Nowhere else is to be sought the reason of the vigour, permanence, con-tinuity of the Vietnamese revolutionary movement. In the light of the August Revolution, present-day problems are easily explained.

Commentary

Abrams Won't Be Able To Stave Off U.S. Total Failure in Viet Nam

FOUR months have elapsed since Creighton W. Abrams succeeded William C. Westmoreland as commander-insucceeded William C.West-moreland as commander-in-chief of the strongest U.S. expeditionary forces ever deployed since the end of World War II, after being his deputy for a year in the conduct of the war of aggres-sion on Viet Nam. The reason of this replacement and of of this replacement and of Westy's "promotion" to the office of chief of staff of the U.S. Army is no longer a secret: U.S. aggression had met with a new, bitter setback, as a result of the South Vietnamese people's generalized offensives

> WESTMORELAND'S HERITAGE . A WAR IPPEMEDIABLY LOST

leaving Viet Nam, Westmoreland handed down to his successor an unwelcome heritage.

The U.S. High Command had made mistake after mis-take, strategic as well as tactical, the logical sequel of which was a rapid deteriora-tion of the military situation. Two of the most recent irremediable blunders will be

at the end of the Summer of 1966, and the maintaining up to now, of the "Northern Front" (Highway No 9, Dong Ha, Con Tien...) south of the 17th parallel. This front has turned into a big trap where U.S. crack troops (Marines, Paratroops and men of the Air Mobile Cavalry Division) have been caught and wiped out and a gigantic abscess which has been pinning down over one-third of the mobile forces of the U.S. expeditionary forces.

The second blunder of the U.S. command, fatal to U.S. aggression in Viet Nam, is nected with the Tet generslave to outdated concepts of imperialist military science, deaf and blind in the middle of a hostile people, the "Eastern Pentagon" in Saigon was completely taken surprise and bewildered by the rapid course of events Instead of bringing war into rural and mountain areas, Abrams and his superio Westmoreland had to face it at the very door of their bedrooms. Far from "searching and destroying the V.C." they witnessed — dumb founded - the latter pursu ing and wiping out G.I.'s and puppet soldiers in the very streets of Saigon and of nearly all cities and towns in South Viet Nam.

With its troops spread thin from North to South, from the plains to the mountains the U.S. command was never able to pack a punch as it had planned, in spite of half a million U.S. spite of haif a million U.S. troops. The "backbone of the V.C." had not been broken. On the contrary, the P.L.A.F. more aggressive than ever, launched offen-

sives throughout South Viet

Thus as Abrams took over the command - in - chief in South Viet Nam, the situation South Viet Nam, the situation was not cheerful: strategic passivity was increasing, the disposition of forces was upset by the initiative of the Liberation troops, the expeditionary forces were warweary and the puppet army was weaker than ever. In a was weaker than ever. In a word, a war irremediably

ADDAMS' STRATEGY_A HYBRID OPPORTUNISTIC. VISIBLY DEFENSIVE STRATEGY

THE only way to get out of such a predicament and save thousands of American lives and U.S. honour would be to stop aggression and put an end to the war on the Viet-namese people. Such is not however Washington policy, so Abrams has to carry the war. He is without the trumps in Westmoreland's hands four years ago, namely the possibility of massively increasing military expendi-tures and U.S. and puppet tures and U.S. and pupper manpower (end of 1964: 600,000 men among them 23,300 G.I.'s — March 1968: 1,220,000 men among them 510,500 G.I.'s); an expeditionary corps whose faith in the invincibility of U.S. weapons had not been the compared to the compare weapons had not badly shaken by bitter feats on the battlefield : the prestige, intact, of famous military command reputed the youngest, the most dynamic and energetic U.S. general, a "Napoleon" among 4-star U.S. generals.

Abrams' strategy — as revealed by the American press and confirmed by facts—aims not at reversing the situation to pave the way for a military victory, considered impossible, but at preventing the deterioration of the situation and limiting

consists essentially in:

-Holding and consolidating the periphery and inside of the towns, important bases key sectors along the borders, particularly on Highway Nos south of the 17th parallel;

- Pushing war as far as possible from main towns taking measures to stall such attacks as the Tet offensive and if possible, nipping them

Restoring the Saigon army with a view to "Vietnamizing" the war, i.e. giving the puppet troops a bigger share of growing

Thus has ended Westmore land's favourite "search and-destroy "strategy which threw U.S. infantry units into "searches" for the P.L.A.F. to intercept them, pin them down and "de-stroy" them with bombs and shells. Compared with the strategy

Abrams is hybrid, opportunistic and visibly more defensive. For a war of aggression, the loss of the initiative and a fortiori initiative and a fortiori recourse to the defensive portend an imminent defeat,

What has Abrams since he took over the high command? At first, he launched Operation Pegasus with a view to relieving Khe Sanh: 3,200 U.S. and puppet soldiers were put out of action in two weeks. With Operation Delaware, A So, southwest of Hue, was re-occupied for a short time and had to be evacuated shortly afterwards: 2,200 G.I.'s were killed or wounded 200 aircraft most of them helicopters shot down or destroyed on the ground.

In May, a new wave of P.L.A.F. attacks on some fifty towns and cities in South Viet Nam again made a great stir in the world. Abrams' headquarters had expected those onslaughts and taken adequate measures to beat them off. But th Americans were badly tered in places where their troops were most concen-trated and were most expect-ed to be attacked, even in Saigon and to the north of Ouang Tri province. War was brought again into towns: the puppet army and admin-istration, hardly recovering from the *Tet* blows, disin-tegrated again more rapidly. tered in places where their from the Tet blows, disin-tegrated again more rapidly. In May, the enemy lost 72.000 men (30,000 G.I.s) killed, wounded or captured. more than 1,000 aircraft and 2,000 military vehicles de-stroyed or damaged.

The end of marked by a new U.S. setback.
The enemy had to evacuate
Khe Sanh which had become ntenable. The evacuation of this " combat base " consi-dered by Johnson the "sym-bol of U.S. determination" to remain in Viet Nam cost 1,700 Marines killed or

July witnessed serious re-

came under fire in 34 towns and cities. In five days, from 22 to 26, in Da Nang area alone, 1,000 men were put out of action, 32 aircraft shot down or destroyed on the ground. Meanwhile, a battle in the Mekong Delta resulted in 700 G.I. and 300 puppet casualties, 25 boats sunken or burnt, 14 aircraft

shot down or damaged. With Abrams' new strategy, losses have never stopped rising. War has not been rising. War has not been pushed far from key centres, certain of these, indefensible, have even been evacuated. As acknowledged by USIS (June 7, 1958) N.F.L. attacks on cities remain a constant certain of these indefensible on cities remain a constant threat to the U.S. command which expects to be struck at any moment.

The restoration of the The restoration of the Saigon army has been for Abrams a source of disappointment. It is like trying to turn "hares" into "lions," as an American paper remarked. According to Newsmarked. According to News-week (June 5), this anti-na-tional army is still paralyzed, its officers still inefficient. They only misuse power and indulge in embezzlement. The American and Saigon troops' morale is sinking as casualty lists are lengthening.

Conflicts and personal rivalries are aggravating in Saigon political circles. Henchmen political circles. Thien and of Ky have even come to blows. Rumour about putsches are persistents. The Saigon regime is more hated than ever at home and more despised than ever abroad.

Far from being more "Vietnamized," Abrams' war is getting more "Americanized," since U.S. forces have been massively called in to fight against the people in towns and suburbs. To n towns and suburbs. To shield U.S. expeditionary for-ces from fresh defeats, Abrams has come to expose them to the blows of the P.I.A.F., under the noses of the last sections of the population upon which U.S. propaganda might still have some in-

cerned, nothing new has been found by the brains — even the electronic ones — of the "Eastern Pentagon." Turning in a vicious circle the U.S. command has resumed and stepped up measures which had already proved ineffec-tive against the people's war in South Viet Nam: setting up of barbed wire fences around towns, bombing and shelling of "contaminated" areas, use of B.52's against the very suburbs of

LET US BE FAIR TO ABRAMS: IT IS NOT A QUESTION OF INDIVIDUAL ABILITY

aggression in Viet Nam is doomed to failure. There is no need to be particularly perspicacious to see it. With a little intelligence and objectivity, it is possible to form vity, it is possible to form a sound opinion about the matter as recently Lord Montgomery of Alamein has done. In an interview granted to Anthony Lewis, the New York Times (July 5) reported, the old Marshal who had defeated Rommel in Africa declared without ambiguity that U.S. generals had not won and would never win in the South Viet Nam theatre where they had got a sound thrashing.

The losing war fought by the U.S. cannot be won by any general, however brilliant he may be. Let us be fair to Abrams! It is not a question f individual ability.
'immoral' character U.S. aggression is the only thing to blame for the inevitable failure of the Pentagon. Abrams who distinguished himself at Bastogne by foiling, in the winter of 1944, Von Rundstedt's counter-offensive in the Ardennes can in no way turn the tables for it is on the fascists' side that he is now fighting.



Dead bodies of G.I.s being evacuated by helicopters

VIET NAM AND THE WORLD AT LARGE

following the situation i

Viet Nam and were eager to learn about new developments.

Zanzibar never missed an

opportunity to show their Vietnamese friends their tra-ditional hospitality and deep sympathy with Vietnamese

people.

During our stay in the
U.A.R., we once took a stroll

Viet Nam in the Bosom of Africa and Asia

A D.R.V.N. government envoy, I recently paid friendship visits to a number of African and West Asian countries having diplomatic relations with the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam: the Algerian Demonam: the Agerian cratic and People's Republic, the Mali Republic, the Republic of Guinea, the Republic of Congo (B), the United Arab Republic, the Unified Republic of Tanzania, the Arab Republic of Syria.

N all the countries we visited, the heads of state, prime ministers and other leaders warmly hailed the resounding victories achieved by the Vietnamese people in both zones of the country, expressed boundless admiration for their struggle, considered it a priceless contribution and a shining example to the national liberation movement in Africa and the world and once again voiced complete sup-port for the positions of the Government of the D.R.V.N. the South Viet Nam Almost all of them were of the opinion that gratitude is not due by the Vietnamese people to the people and governments of African countries, but by the latter to the heroic the latter to the heroic Vietnamese people. All were confident that the American imperialists are bound to be defeated and the Vietnamese people to triumph, and expressed resolute support to latter until complete victory over the American aggressors. All sent their respectful and warmest to President Ho

Countries where Vietnamese experts are at work, such as Mali, Guinea, the Congo, were unanimous in praising the earnestness and dedication Vietnamese doctors.

teachers, engineers, workers and other specialists, and stressed that the sending of experts to help friendly countries at a time when Viet Nam is needing every bit of her strength to resist American aggression is an eloquent proof of her lofty

ROM the people of those friendly countries friendly countries we received an extremely warm and affectionate wel-come. Whether in individual or collective, prearranged or casual meetings, our brothers and sisters of Africa and West Asia all showed

in Guiza, one of the populous quarters of Cairo: we were at once surrounded by Egyptian warmest feelings toward the Vietnamese people. Our Algerian friends, from friends who inquired about our health as though we were brothers back from a long journey, praised the Vietgovernment officials to the men in the street, all spoke about the growing develop-ment of the militant solidarnamese people's fighting skill and big victories, and wished them quick and complete victory. In Luxor, in beauti-ful and ancient Thebes, our guide told us how happy he was to talk about Egypt's ity between the peoples of the two countries from the time when the Dien Bien Phu victory opened the way for the Algerian insurrection in November 1954. In meetings with our Mali brothers, we age-old culture to Vietnamese brothers. His face shone with pride in both the wonders built by his ancestors thoustill felt ringing in our ears the slogans filled with hatred built by his ancestors thousands of years ago and the victories won over the American imperialists by his Vietnamese brothers on the faraway shore of the Pacific.

In Syria's bustle of preparedness, we constantly felt as though we were meeting comrades; in some energing contrades; in some for the American imperialists shouted by thousands of shouted by thousands of demonstrators in the streets of Bamako on the occasion of the Day of World Youth against Colonialism and International Women's Day. In the Congo (B), when we visited Daking the occasion of Points meeting comrades in some Dolisie, the port of Pointe Noire and the capital Brazza-ville, our talks to government combat trench in Viet Nam. for the streets of Damascus

Alep, and Hama were dotte officials of all branches and with gun emplacements and foxholes. Our Syrian friends, levels and to the people were turned into meetings of soli-darity with the Vietnamese who were fighting against the Israeli aggressors, liked to struggle against the American aggressors. In Alep, Syria's second biggest city, we gave a talk: when it ended and In Guinea, during our visits In Guinea, during our visits to a number of places in the capital, to factories and the provincial capital of Kindia, workers, engineers, govern-ment officials and the head of the province gave us a we were about to board our cars, we realized that hundreds of people had been wait-ing for us in spite of the late hour, and within minutes, an

enthusiastic meeting was held Wherever we went on friends wanted to know how our people are carrying out abreast production and fightabreast production and fight-ing, how we repair the roads and keep traffic flowing, how our anti-aircraft guns, air forces, and militia shoot down American planes, how the Liberation troops deal hard blows at the enemy in Saigon,



Brazzaville pioneers demonstrating in support of Viet Nam pioneers and people's struggle against U.S. aggression

Hue and other places... Every-where, our friends shared our joy and our pride.

WE tried to get a better idea of what inspired the African and Syrian peoples with such warm feel-ings towards the Vietnamese people. The Foreign Minister of a North African country said to us: "In Africa, except for a handful of valets of the American imperialists, everybody, even in countries having not yet established diplomatic relations with the D.R.V.N., turns to Viet Nam for inspiration and fully supports the Vietnamese people's resistance to American aggres-sion, for national salvation."

The farther we went in Africa, and a'so during our visit to Syria, the more we realized that the support extended by the peoples of Africa and Asia to our own rests on solid bases. The first reason is because

the Vietnamese people's resist-ance to American aggression, for national salvation, shines with justice. The Vietnamese people's right to self-defence, against foreign aggression, is a sacred and inviolable one, We are fighting not only in our own interests, but also in those of the socialist camp, the national liberation move-ment, the peace of the world. Our victory over the Americans will mean victory over the imperialist chieftain who arrogates to himself the right to attack other countries in defiance of international law and ethics. Our victory will mean the victory of the people's war, the invincible weapon to defeat the impe-rialist aggressors' modern rialist aggressors' modern warfare. Our victory over the American imperialists will mean the victory of justice over injustice, of civilisation

Pathet Lao Radio Flays Harriman's

over barbarity.

Another reason is that our friends in Africa, and the African people at large, have themselves experienced for hundreds of years domination, oppression and exploitation at the hands of the imperialists and colonialists. When World War Two ended, the national liberation movement Africa underwent a very vigorous upsurge, and dozens of countries conquered in-dependence. The map of Africa has radically changed, in comparison to the situation of ten years ago, and is changing with each passing day. But the imperialists, headed by the American headed by the American imperialists, are showing their fangs and are trying to smother the nationalis impose on them their neocolonialist rule. Preparing to set up an all-Africa com-mand, the Americans are scheming to use special forces against the African people. To the latter, intervention and aggression by the imperialists pose a very serious threat. That why more and more Africans value the lesson which has been drawn by the Vietnamese people and which has been raised by President Ho Chi Minh to a precious than independence and freedom." Before the great victories won by the Vietnamese people in their resistance to American ag gression, for national sal-vation, they feel all the dent, and all the more resolved to fight on so as to foil all aggressive designs of the imperialists headed by the American imperialists.

New U.S. Encroachments Cambodia's Territory

imperialists and their South Viet Nam henchmen's troops and aircraft have been repeatedly encroaching on the territory of the Kingdom of Cambodia. Following the barbarous massacres of many Cambodia, U.S. warships on July 17 openly violated the territory of violated the territory of Cambodia. To cover up its acts of aggression, the U.S. raised a slanderous clamour about "the presence of about "the presence of North Vietnamese troops on Cambodia's territory, "Accord-ing to Western sources, the U.S. is contemplating "new measures" against Cambodia. In a statement issued on August 12, the Foreign Ministry of the D.R.V.N.

"The D.R.V.N. Government strongly condemns the above-cited schemes and acts of aggression by U.S. imperialism, and defending above-cited schemes and acts of the U.S. imperialists against and territorial integrity." "The D.R.V.N. Govern-

the independence, neutrality the independence, neutrality and territorial integrity of Cambodia. The D.R.V.N. Government and the Vietnamese people fully support the just position of the Cambodian Government expounded in the July 22, 1968 note of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Cambodia and in the statement of the Royal Statement of the Royal protesting against the U.S. acts of aggression, slanders and threats against Cambodia

"The Vietnamese people firmly believe that the fraternal Khmer people, under the clearsighted leadership of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and with the support and symmetry of riman, Don't Talk Non-sense," Pathet Lao Radio has broadcast a commentary exposing Harriman's renewed misrepresentation of the Lao situation at the D.R.V.N. - U.S. Paris talks sympathy of progressive public opinion in the world, will certainly succeed in thwarting all schemes and

Misrepresentation of Lao Situation NDER the title "Harthe Paris talks not only is

D.R.V.N. - U.S. Paris talks in defiance of strong protest by the Lao Patriotic Front (Neo Lao Haksat).

The Radio said: "The raising of the Lao issue by the U.S. representative at

the Paris talks not only is an illegal and arrogant move which infringes on the sovereignty of Laos but also provided the source of the property of the pressure of public opinion in the United States and the world which is strongly conducted the strongly conducted the strongly conducted the strongly of the property o

vanna Phouma, Harriman is acting like a drowning man snatching at a straw," the Radio commented.

feeling of peace- and jus-tice-loving people through-out the world."

It went on to say: "The

so-called 'White Book' pub-lished in Paris by Phouma is nothing short of a heap of waste paper. Distorting his-torical facts with falsehoods, Harriman has offended the

A U.S. LOOTING RAID IN CAM RANH

THE Saugon daily Song
(Life) on July 31 reported a looting raid
conducted by U.S. military police against Vietnamese in Cam Ranh. The U.S. mediately issued a denial while the puppet adminis-tration ordered the closing down of the paper on charge of "spreading false reports detrimental to national security and alliance with the United States." The director of the paper, Chu Van Binh, was threatened with legal action by a military tribunal. The truth about the raid in Cam Ranh has been reported by Giai Phong Press Agency as

> "At 6 p.m. on July 26, in a residential quarter in the Cam Ranh coastal city, more than 200 American military policemen under the command of a U.S. lieutenant-colonel, jumped down from their trucks and with rifle butts forced open the houses and shops. many They took money and other valuables from wardrobes and trunks. Many went upstairs, smashed open doors, beat up the people living there and snatched away wrist-watches and money they found on them.

"At the home of Mrs Phan Thi Thai, ten M.P. made a thorough search on the ground and first floors. While those downstairs broke open a chest and took 30,000 piastres, the others on the first floor searched trunks for money. As Mrs Thai tried to wrest back her money, the M.P. beat her and pushed her out of the house.

"At No. 13, New Market area, a U.S. policeman forced Mrs Bui Thi Thong at gunpoint to open her wardrobe, piastres.

"At No. 52, Tran Hung Dao Street, the military police Vo Thi Thong and seized several thousand piastres in her pocket. Some of them threw a flag of the puppet administration on the ground and trod on it contemp-

" Military police also ransacked Nhuan Duc pagoda

" An official of the puppet administration in Cam Ranh. an eyewitness of the raid, said that the American policemen snatched away the wristwatch of anyone who came

"He said : 'The Cam Ranh people's feelings ran high against the piratic and brutal acts of the G.I.'s who assaulted even children and pregnant women.""...

The story of the raid by the daily Song triggered off a wave of anger among the people of Saigon and other cities of South Viet Nam.

Radio Saigon admitted that the raid did take place but described it as a " joint operation" allegedly to search for "contraband goods," The plan for the "operation," said, was drawn up on July 25, 1968 at the municipal 25, 1968 at the municipal office of Cam Ranh and the operation was conducted from a.m. to 3.30 p.m. on July 26. The puppet troops were ordered to search the "inner perimetre" and the Americans the "outer perimetre. According to plan, all the brand-new goods still in cases or in bags would be handed over to the U.S. authorities, and the rest to the puppet administration. Radio Saigon also acknowledged that some American M.P., "out of overzeal-ousness," had "unilaterally fallen out of line to search the adversary, thus provoking

Faced with strong public protest, the "Lower House" of the Saigon puppet adminis-tration had to send an "investigation mission" to Cam Ranh. Confronted with the hard facts and under strong pressure from public opinion, this "investigation mission" finally had to conclude that the U.S. military police had "committed cases of looting in Cam Ranh" and that the government" had actually suppressed the facts. It urged that prosecution against the

some regrettable incidents.

paper Song be discontinued. Once again U.S. aggressiveness and the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique's traitorous nature



Cua Viet Port (Quang Tri province

VIET NAM COURIER

with mines 8 caissons sup porting a temporary ponto bridge across the Ben Luc river which substituted for the iron bridge already de the iron bridge allows, as stroyed by the patriotic armed forces on the night of June 29, 1968. Below is an account of the June exploit.

panies backed by artillery and a picket of two or three men city. An arch weighing

On the night of August 6, abattalion of puppet Division few minutes later, a thunder1968, the P.L.A.F. blew up 25 and two American coming explosion racked the ing explosion rocked the whole area, sending tiles armoured vehicles and patrol and window panes flying over boats equipped with submarine many hundred metres. The mine detectors. The puppet region was then wrapped in company on patrol posted a complete darkness owing to round the clock on the bridge the ensuing failure of electri-

Ben Luc Bridge Blasted by P.L.A.F.

Ities, southwest of Saigon, the 800-metre long steel bridge, Nam Bo's biggest, crossed the Eastern Vam Co River which drains part of the waters of the Plain of Reeds to the sea. It was linked to the centre of Saigon by a 32 m section of National Highway No 4, the trunk communication line between Saigon and the populous and rich provinces of the immense Mekong Delta.

Owing to its paramount importance in the communication system of the U.S. and quisling, the Ben Luc bridge was the object of exceptionally stringent security precautions. A network of metallic frames with barbed wire entanglements protected the pillar of the bridge against drifting mines or "infernal machines" likely to be launched by patriots above bridge, and against attacks by " frogmen" armed with plastic charges. High tension wire defended the lower side of the platform. The vicinity of the bridge was guarded by

Three blockhouses erected on the three main pillars above the platform were dejended by a platoon of G.I.s. For greater safety, the Yankees were ordered to hurl handgrenades from time to time into the river to prevent eventual attacks from "frogmen." At night, the bridge was brightly illuminated by 500 electric bulbs and shots were fired without warning on everything floating toward the bridge.

Nevertheless, the P.L.A.F. were resolved to strike at this target essential for the enemy's war efforts in the Mekong Delta. Reconnaissance missions were successfully undertaken thanks to the help of the local inhabitants. A detailed plan was elaborated and carried out.

Thus a little before midnight of June 29, 1968 Unit X. men succeeded in laying explosive charges on the welllit bridge without rousing the least enemy suspicion. A

at every 15-metre distance. hundreds of tons collapsed while others, vigorously shaken, tilted dangerously on one side.

Three military vehicles which were crossing the bridge were thrown into the water Three patrol boats mooring not far from the bridge were sunk by the blast, while a 105mm cannon from a nearby two American and puppet combanies which detended the bridge heads and mounted

traffic snarl gathered on both sides of the river. After several days of hard work by American Seabees, a pontoon bridge was built across the river, but was obviously inadequate to cope with the massive flow of cars; yet it was blown up by the P.L.A.F. in August.

Let us add that Unit X. which distinguished itself in the June exploit has been awarded a Liberation Military Order, third class.

VNA STATEMENT ON U.S. PUPPET "RELEASE OF NORTH VIETNAMESE P.O.W.'S" FARCE

THE Saigon puppet adminis-tration recently issued a communiqué on its so-called "release of ailing and wounded North Vietnamese prisoners-of-war."

In this connection, Viet Nam News Agency has been authorized to state the following:

"This is a cunning move of the U.S. and its henchmen in South Viet Nam, aimed at covering up the utterly savage crimes daily perpetrated by them against the Vietnamese But it can deceive

"As is known by every one, the U.S. and its lackeys in South Viet Nam have frequently used warships and number of such people in the territorial waters of the D.R.V.N. or at the provito intimidate and aircraft to intimidate and attack Vietnamese cargo ships sional military demar and fishing boats, even within the territorial waters of any intermediary. of the D.R.V.N. and illegally arrested civilians and military personnel aboard

"The D.R.V.N. Govern ment has many times strongly condemned, and protested against, such piratic acts which grossly violate the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam and international law. The D.R.V.N. Government has demanded that the U.S. and its quislings put an end to all their corsair acts, respect the territorial sovereignty and security of the D.R.V.N. and release immediately and unconditionally all D.R.V.N. citizens still unwarrantedly detained by them. Faced with the struggle of the Vietnamese people and opposition of world opinion, the U.S. has released a

line without using the offices Besides, the U.S. and its flunkeys have often sent South Vietnamese, whom they had

illegally arrested, to North Viet Nam across the provisional military demarcation line or at the fringe of the D.R.V.N. territorial waters. The D.R.V.N. Government's policy is to let those freely choose either to seek a living in North Viet Nam or to return to South Viet Nam.

Of late, the U.S. and the Saigon puppet administration asked certain organizations to negotiate the release of a number of Vietnamese illegal-ly arrested by them. The D.R.V.N. Government holds that the U.S. and its henchmen must immediately set free -in the same way as they have done so far-all the people they have illegally

TO THE READER

We are aware that there We are aware that there is much room for improve-ment in the wording of our paper. We apologize for this shortcoming and highly appreciate all your suggestions as they will help us to serve you more

ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

Military **Operations**

NORTHERN PART OF CENTRAL VIET NAM SOUTH VIET NAM

I N the first nine days of August north of Quang Tri province, the P.L.A.F. ceaselessly ham-mered at the enemy in the sectors of Ca Lu, Tan Lam (on Highway No 9), Dong Ha, Cua Viet, Con Tien and Cua Viet, Con Tien and Gio Linh (sea coast), Giai Phong Press Agency reported. They put out of action more than 850 enemy troops, mostly American, destroyed or damaged 15 vehicles including many tanks and 2 long-range cannons, burnt many depots of ammunition, fuel and military equipment. During many "sweeps" in the mountain regions south of that province the G.I.'s lost on July 29, 80 men (including all the commanding officers of a company) and had on August 8 and 9 100 men killed or wounded and 5 choppers downed.

West of Hue, an enemy uid launched on A So - A uoi region fizzled out This was admitted by General commanding U.S. Air Mobile Division for. Thus between August 4 and 8, 500 enemy soldiers had already been killed or wounded and 11 aircraft downed August 9, the P.L.A.F. assaulted units of U.S. Air Mobile 10: supported by armoured cars and armed hovercraft 8km northeast of Hue, Western agencies reported.

N Da Nang region, between July 28 and August 6, the enemy took 550 casualties (mostly 6.1.8) and had 3 choppers downed and 14 vehicles destroyed. The most remarkable battle occurred con August 2 charts. remarkable battle occurred on August 3, about 4,0 kilometres south-southeast of Da Nang, in which all the 58 G.I.s on board 6 amphibious carriers escorted by 2 M.41 tanks were killed or wounded, the 8 vehicles were destroyed and all the weapons

Also according to Western

sources, on August 10 and 11, 30km southwest of Da Nang, U.S. Marines of Regiment 5. Division I, were hotly pursu-ed by the P.L.A.F., who engaged the enemy in a fierce hand grenade fight. 25km north of **Quang Ngai** town, near Chu Lai base, a post defended by two U.S. platoons defended by two U.S. platóons and 2 pupper platoons was overrun on August 2 after 20 minutes' fighting: all the garrison (140 mrn) was killed seized. On August 10, Western sources said, units of Brigade 198, of Division Americal, was badly mauled 20km northwest of Quang Ngai and many choppers hit by guerillas' fire.

las fire.

Giai Phong Press Agency reported further on July 22 that the P.L.A.F. won a brilliant victory near Tam. brilliant victory near Tam Quan, 99km north of Qui Nhon, over 3 columns of enemy armoured cars and mounted a successful attack on many enemy posts nearby 200 enemy soldiers were kill

wounded, 8 tanks and oured cars destroyed toarmoured cars destroyed to-gether with 7 lorries, 2 can-nons, a mortar, a fuel depot; 2 helicopters were downed. At **Qui Nhon** town, the P.L.A.F. assaulted an impor-Vestern tant enemy signal on August 12,

SAIGON AREA

THE P.L.A.F. has staged THE P.L.A.F. has staged many devastating coups around Saigon against enemy river convoys. Gisi Phong Frees Agency reported. Phong Frees Agency reported. Sat, 25km southeast of Saigon, within 6 hours on July 30, two 8,000 and 12,000-ton cargo-boats were damaged by P.L.A.F. shelling. The following day, a riverine a raid was intercepted in the a raid was intercepted in the a raid was intercepted in the outskirts of Rung Sat and 5 vessels burnt. On August 5, "Storm Riverine Task Force" No 27 was attacked southeast of Saigon and, as reported in our last issue, General F.M.

Davis Jr. was seriously wounded. Giai Phong Press Agency gave adverse losses as 10 vessels burnt or sunk and 200

Besides, 5 km south of Nha Be, the enemy suffered 200 casualties on August 7 and 8.

casualties on August 7 and 8.

It is also reported that in the ingagements south-west of Salgon, the enemy had on August 3 and 4, 200 G.I.s killed or wounded, and the second of the sec

According to Western reports, on August 7 and 8, units of U.S. Division 9 sus-

tained heavy losses at Can Duce, 35 km south of Saigon, while on August 9, Hau Nghia was pounded by artillery of the P.L.A.F. who stormed a pupper battalion covered by armoured cars in Ben Cat region, 40 km north of Saigon. One of the two battles fought One of the two battles fought against units of U.S. Division 9 on August 12 near Can Duoc was reported by AFP to be the biggest engagement since the beginning of the lunar

MEKONG DELTA

BOUT 80km southwest of Asigon, on July 30 and August 1, the P.L.A.F. asigon, in the P.L.A.F. asigon and August 2, rown southwest of Saigon, they force at Hoat Luu, sinking 3 vessels full of puppet soldiers and burning 3 landing craft. On the same evening, they by South Korean mercenaries by South Korean mercenaries near Hoa Luu.

BEN TRE, CRADLE OF SOUTH VIET NAM "SIMULTANEOUS UPRISINGS"

OCATED in the Mekong Delta, Ben Tre, open to the wind of the Eastern Sea, is a province laced with an intricate network of rivers and canals. network of rivers and canals. It is famous not only for its occount groves, its immense ricefields, the songs of its boatwomen on the Ba Liai, the Giong Trom, the Ham Luong, the Cua Dai... rivers, but also for its heroic sons and daughters, its famous "long-barred" troops, the first in South Viet Nam, and expecially for the movement especially for the movement of people's earth-shaking "simultaneous uprisings" of which it is the cradle.

In the present moven generalized attacks of generalized attacks and uprisings it is setting a bril-liant example by combining armed struggle with political struggle, carrying out the three simultaneous spearhead offen-sives and inflicting upon the enemy setback after enemy setback

Right at the very start, Right at the very start, the revolutionary masses rush-ed forward to wipe out Sai-gon thugs and the local puppet administration, and cut off traffic, while units of cut off traffic, while units of Liberation troops and militia stabled deep into the enemy's dens in cities and urban centres (Giong Trom, Ba Tri, Mo Cay...) and throughout the countryside, throwing enemy troops into panic and disarray. In the impetus of its initial victories, with the close co-peration of the three kinds operation of the three kinds of armed forces (regular, regional and militia forces), regional and militia forces), of the army and the people, of the countryside and the towns, Ben Tre has never ceased to provide itself with fresh facilities to wipe out masses of enemy soldiers.

The violent attack on the night of May 5, 1968 was a hard blow at the puppet administration in the city.

subse on the night of May 6 which threatened Highway No 6 (Ben Tre to My Tho) and tightened the encirclement of the city, forced the enemy to send in rescue troops. It resulted in 2 battalions of puppet regular Division 7 and one company of Rangers put out of action at Huu Dinh.

Ben Tre has particularly distinguished itself by riverine annihilation actions which have long been one of its traditional strong points.

Hardly had an entire con-voy of 12 boats with one U.S. battalion on board been U.S. battalion on board been sent to the rescue of puppet troops at Huu Dinh and sunk on the Ba Lai river when on the Ham. Luong river, regional militia troops of Mo Cay ambushed another enemy convoy, burning or sinking 3 U.S. boats at Dinh Thuy. The most resounding victory took place on the Giong Trom river (May a6 and 27) where river (May 26 and 27) 3 enemy boats were burnt or sunk and 1,500 G.I.s put out of action. Drawing lessons from these defeats, the Americans deployed 5,000 men (one U.S. brigade, one men (one U.S. brigade, one regiment of regular puppet troops) against the P.L.A.F. after a prior B-52 bombing of some villages nearby. Half of this troop strength was wiped out and 38 U.S. boats were sunk. The puppet regiment fled in great haste.

Most recently, on July 23 and 24, Ben Tre burnt or sank 23 enemy boats, putting out of action over 600 G.I.s on the Ham Luong and Giong Trom rivers.

Thus, the "small riverine task force" tactic has gone bankrupt, the enemy being badly mauled on any river,

whether they come in small batches or in groups of boats.

Since the beginning of the since the beginning of the period of widespread attacks and uprisings Ben Tre has wiped out or heavily depleted tens of U.S. and puppet battalions, burnt or sunk nearly 170 boats and cut off enemy key communication lines. It has set new records in liquidating whole battalions sinking combat boats in the Mekong theatre.

Ben Tre has cleverly combined military offensives with mass uprisings.

Its famous "long-haired troops" consisting only of women overran the Cai Son post, captured the base of engineering troops at Rach Vong, disbanded or won over - by their political struggle — by their political struggle — one company of puppet militia, one puppet company at the Tan Thanh sir-strip, 108 puppet militiamen in the Ham Luong area, Chet Say bridge and tens of puppet platoons at Mo Cay, Giong Trom, Ba Tri ... Thousands of youths and Buddhist monks youths and Buddhist monks have come from newly liber-ated areas or Saigon-con-trolled territory to join the P.L.A.F. The people's power has been set up in the countryside and areas close to the urban centres, in a stirring

Holding high the flag of victory, Ben Tre fully de-serves the 2nd class "Brass Wall of the Fatherland" Medal awarded by the South

. Political offensive, military offensive, propaganda work among enemy milita-



Liberation fighters and children of a newly liberated locality in South Viet Nam